



P.O. Box 65303
Tacoma, WA 98464

<http://tacoma-wa.aauw.net/>



TACOMA (WA)
BRANCH

"By Joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic and educational barriers so that all women have a fair chance."

December 2020/ January 2021

AAUW Tacoma Branch December Program

On Saturday, December 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Speaker Laurie Jenkins will join us as our featured guest presenter for our December branch meeting through Zoom. She will share her experiences as Washington State Speaker of the House and Representative and her thoughts about the upcoming 2021 legislative session. There will be time for a short Q&A afterwards, so bring your questions! Look for a Zoom link coming soon!



How to use Zoom

Currently all of our meetings are using Zoom online video conferencing.

If you need help with logging in to the meeting or using the controls, click [HERE](#).



Tech Trek is a one-week STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) camp designed to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in young women who will enter eighth grade in the fall. This is the age when girls' participation in these fields statistically drops, so this camp can spark their curiosity and guide them toward a path toward success. AAUW – Tacoma Branch has sponsored around 10 campers each year since 2014, sending them to one of two WA state camp locations: Pacific Lutheran University or Eastern Washington University. The Branch Tech Trek committee contacts teachers for nominations, accepts applications, and interviews potential campers. Those who participate have found it so inspiring to have a role in helping talented girls have such a life changing opportunity.



This year, our Tech Trek committee did not complete its camper selection process due to the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and there was no 2020 Tech Trek camp in WA. The AAUW CEO and board have determined that all Tech Trek camps in 2021 will be virtual or not at all because there are too many moving targets to even consider face to face based on continuing outbreaks and potential liability. After careful consideration, our branch has decided not to contact teachers (typically done in December/January) to solicit nominations for a camp in the summer of 2021. Members who are interested in participating in the statewide AAUW Tech Trek planning process may contact Karen Manelis, the AAUW Tech Trek program director for WA, at ktmanelis@yahoo.com. Check out the Tech Trek WA website for more information (<http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>) The funds that we have raised for Tech Trek will be held for a future camp when we will once again sponsor Tacoma area campers, and we continue to accept donations to sponsor local students for future camps at **AAUW-WA Tech Trek**

Special Projects Fund

[Donate](#)

Membership

Shout-out to our newest branch members who've joined us in the past 12 months! We're so glad to have you here!



- Thelmajeane Crovello
- Barbara Gilchrist
- Amanda Nicksic
- Lola Ridgley-Wagar
- Mary Stanton-Anderson

Welcome Back to Jessica Marcinkevage!

We now have 48 members for the 2020 - 2021 year.

Happy Birthday to our December and January Members

12/20 Sue Schub

12/21 Phyllis Izant

1/1 Diane Palmquist



Members are Invited to Observe the January Board Meeting!

The next board meeting will be held on January 11 at 2 p.m. on Zoom



All are welcome. Come see how branch government works! Please contact Susan if you want to join in as we need to send out the login information before the event. Contact Susan Hesselgrave at susanhesselgrave@gmail.com

A Letter from Carol R.

Hello AAUW Ladies,

First, thank you for renewing and staying in our group in a trying time, when we can't meet in person to talk and eat together.

If you are going a little bonkers in stay-home mode, like me, I hope you've found some entertaining activities. I've got two new hobbies: free online jigsaw puzzles and Kindle books. I have read several really good books.

The highlight of the past several months has been getting 2 new titanium hip joints that are much more workable than the old crumbling bone ones. It has made a huge difference.

Robin needed content for this newsletter, so I went to the national website to see what I could find. On the home page, in the upper right are some choices. I clicked on Take Action to see where it would lead, and was surprised I could follow a long path without having to sign in. The Take Action page has several sections: National, State, Two-Minute Activist, Policy Center, a place to sign up for the newsletter, and one of my favorite quotes from Margaret Mead:

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

The Two Minute activist is a fun exercise. AAUW sends us action alerts on issues that need attention in the House or Senate. We get to fill in our own comments, just agree with a pre-written policy statement, or edit it, and AAUW finds our Representative or Senators and sends the email as part of a mass action request from AAUW. It's a quick way to participate in lobbying efforts and make our individual and collective voice heard.

About 2/3 of the way down on this page, under Education, there is a click through menu on how to write either an op-ed or letter to the editor for our local newspaper. This was something I hadn't come across before and the how-to advice is eye-opening good.

The top banner across the home page used to have 'History', which led to the history of AAUW from 1881. It's still there when you type Our History in the search box. The timeline, pictures and notable dates are all listed. This is worth another look, even if you've explored it before.

Stay safe, sisters; keep zooming until we can meet again.

Interest Groups (MeetUps)

Diggers and Delvers

The University Place Garden Tour went virtual this year. Here is a link to view the featured gardens of University Place. Hopefully the beautiful gardens will lift your spirits. Go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j__FA6qU7qQ The tour shows seven amazing properties.

Daytime Book Group



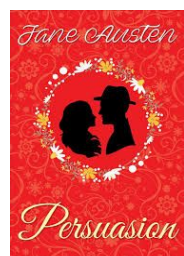
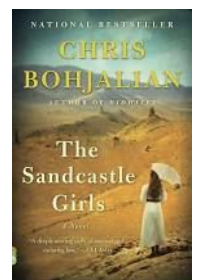
The Daytime Book Group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on December 2 on Google Meets to discuss *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. You will receive an email invitation to join. Just click on the link and you should connect. This later date is so we do not meet right before Thanksgiving. Dolora will review. There will not be another review in December.

Our January book will be to read and discuss any cozy mystery that you want that was written by Kate Carlisle. We will do our virtual discussion on January 27 at 10:30 a.m. We can compare characters and plots between the books. The reviewer will be Carol.



Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet through Zoom on November 30 at 6:30 p.m. We'll discuss *Sandcastle Girls* by Chris Bohjalian. Dolora will lead the discussion. There is not a book selection for December.



In January we will read and discuss *Persuasion* by Jane Austen. This will be a Zoom meeting on January 25 at 6:30 p.m. led by Dorothy. (There are many different book covers for this book)

Papercrafters

Papercrafters will not be meeting until further notice. Contact Connie for information at (253) 565-7518.

Second Saturday at the Cinema



Since the Grand has been closed during the pandemic, we have not been going to the movies. I bet you have been watching many movies at home though. If you would like to share the name of a good movie you have watched it would be fun to see. It may give ideas to others on what to watch. Email me with the name and where you watched it. (Netflix, Hulu, Cable channel, HBO, etc.)

Email: Robin at laro32@gmail.com

Stay Connected with AAUW

- AAUW Washington State Website <http://aauw-wa.aauw.net/>
- AAUW Washington State Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/aauw.washington>
- AAUW Washington State Tech Trek <http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>
- AAUW National Website <http://www.aauw.org/>
- AAUW National Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.National>
- AAUW Tech Trek Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWTechTrek>

Communications Team Notes

- We welcome your ideas for interest groups, activities, priorities, recruitment, and anything else! Our goal is to attract new members by expanding our social media presence ([Facebook](#) and [Website](#)). We'd like to use our [MeetUp Tool](#) to reach out to other Tacoma-area groups.
- Please send notices of events and news to the newsletter team at aauwtaconewsletter@gmail.com. You can send photos as well. Please send by the **16th of the month** unless otherwise noted. We reserve the right to edit as we see fit.

~Robin Larson, Mary Letterman, and Carol Rikerd
AAUW WA Communications Co-Chairs

Upcoming Events



- Evening Book Group (Zoom)- **November 30** at 6:30 p.m.
- Daytime Book Group - **December 2** at 10:30 a.m.
- Speaker Laurie Jenkins- **December 19** from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Board Meeting- **January 11** at 2:00 p.m.
- Evening Book Group (Zoom)- **January 25** at 6:30 p.m.
- Daytime Book Group -**January 27** at 10:30 a.m.